

REMARKS

Prosecution on the merits in this application has been closed.

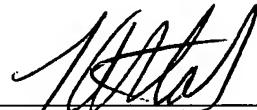
Applicants have amended the specification in the manner suggested by the Examiner to address the informalities cited therein. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully sought.

Applicants have also carefully reviewed Figures 4A, 4B, and 4C in light of the Examiner's comments. As these figures have previously been amended at the direction of the Examiner and so as to expedite prosecution, Applicants have removed the reference to "Prior Art" from each of these figures. Applicants acknowledge and appreciate the Examiner's reconsideration of the previous requirement to label those figures as "Prior Art" and respectfully submit that in their present form, which also corresponds to their original form, they are more accurate without being labeled as "Prior Art."

Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and early passage to issue are respectfully sought.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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